

REMARKS

Status of the Claims

Upon entry of the present Amendment, claims 1-24 will be pending in the application. Claim 9 has been amended herein to correct a typographical error. Claims 13-24 have been added. Support for new claims 13-24 can be found in the present specification, *inter alia*, at pages 8-11. No new matter has been added.

37 CFR § 1.132 Declaration

Enclosed herewith is a 37 CFR § 1.132 Declaration of Toshihiro Ise, one of the present inventors. The Examiner is respectfully requested to review the enclosed Declaration of Dr. Ise as it provides strong evidence of the patentability of the present invention.

In the enclosed Declaration, additional test data, as shown in Additional Example 1 and Additional Comparative Examples 1-54, are set forth. When comparing external quantum efficiency and operation durability, the present invention is unexpectedly superior. Additional Comparative Examples 1-54 strongly evidence that the prior art does not produce the results of the present invention.

Issues under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

1) Claims 1-10 and 12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0125818 to Sato et al. (hereinafter, "Sato '818").

2) Claim 11 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sato '818 in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,962,755 to Ise et al. (hereinafter, "Ise '755").

Applicants respectfully traverse, and reconsideration and withdrawal of these rejections are respectfully requested.

As described above, the claimed invention is accordingly provided with an unexpected improvement in external quantum efficiency and operation durability. These characteristics are supported by additional test data shown in the enclosed Declaration under Rule 132 by inventor Toshihiro Ise.

Although Sato '818 discloses that two or more kinds of host materials may be used in combination, Sato '818 fails to disclose that the combined two host materials are preferably a combination of a hole-transport material and an electron-transport material, and Sato '818 has no examples in which two or more kinds of host materials are used in combination.

In addition, not all of the combinations of host materials disclosed in Sato '818 provide the desired effect, and many of the combinations do not even emit light.

In stark contrast, the present invention claims a specific combination of the materials providing extremely high performance. Undue efforts would be required to find the specific combination of the present invention from the disclosure of Sato '818, and the contents of the present invention are not obvious.

Applicants now turn to the enclosed Declaration of Mr. Ise. As indicated above, the Examiner is respectfully requested to review this Declaration. Upon review of the Declaration, the Examiner will understand that Applicants have shown advantageous results for the present invention that are not obtained by the prior art. Specifically, a comparison between the inventive examples (Additional Example 1 and Example 8) and the comparative examples (Additional Comparative Examples 1-54) shows that the present invention can claim unexpected and superior results with respect to external quantum efficiency and operation durability.

Based on the remarks above, Applicants therefore respectfully submit that the claims of the present application clearly distinguish over Sato '818. Applicants further submit that Ise '755 does not overcome the deficiencies of Sato '818.

Newly Proposed Claims 13-24

Applicants have newly proposed claims 13-24 in an effort to further define the scope of protection owed to Applicants. Applicants respectfully submit that claims 13-24 are allowable for the reasons given above. As such, Applicants respectfully assert that claims 13-24 clearly define over the prior art of record, and an early action to this effect is earnestly solicited.

CONCLUSION

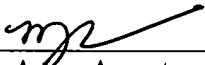
As the above amendments and remarks address and overcome the rejections, withdrawal thereof and allowance of the claims are respectfully requested.

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Chad M. Rink, Reg. No. 58,258, at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37.C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

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Respectfully submitted,

By 
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Attachment: Executed Declaration under 1.132